

INCOMING TELEGRAM

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SENT DEPARTMENT 32; MOSCOW 2.

MOSCOW PERSONAL FOR BOHLEN.

Reference: DEPTTEL 29, July 12.

Finnish public reaction proposed change status Karelo-Finnish Republic thus far slight. There have been no government or officials statements. Only Helsinki editorial to date in independent SANOMAT which largest in Finland. It made no attempt appraise significance and did not mention possible connections border alterations. With characteristic Finnish caution it contained statement: "One interesting feature is that now the whole territory which once belonged to Finland becomes a part of the RSFSR".

We have talked to a number of prominent Finns and they generally think move is favorable but are divided about evenly on whether it is prelude to border changes favorable to Finland during next few months.

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